| 1 | UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT |
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| 2 | NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO |
| 3 | EASTERN DIVISION |
| 4 | |
| 5 |) MDL No. 2804 |
| 6 | IN RE: NATIONAL) |
| 7 | PRESCRIPTION OPIATE) |
| 8 | LITIGATION) |
| 9 |) Case No. 17-md-2804 |
| 10 | THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO:) |
| 11 | ALL CASES) |
| 12 | Hon. Dan A. Polster |
| 13 | |
| 14 | HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL |
| 15 | SUBJECT TO FURTHER CONFIDENTIALITY REVIEW |
| 16 | |
| 17 | VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF |
| 18 | RANDY HEISER |
| 19 | |
| 20 | February 19, 2019 |
| 21 | |
| 22 | Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania |
| 23 | |
| 24 | |

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| 2 | Page 2 | | Page 4 |
| 3 | | 1 | APPEARANCES: (Continued) |
| | | 2 | ON BEHALF OF ENDO HEALTH SOLUTIONS INC., ENDO PHARMACEUTICALS INC., PAR PHARMACEUTICAL, INC. AND PAR |
| 4 | | 3 | PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES, INC. (FKA PAR PHARMACEUTICAL |
| 1 * | | 4 | HOLDINGS, INC.): |
| _ | | | ARNOLD & PORTER KAYE SCHOLER LLP |
| 5 | | 5 | 777 South Figueroa Street, 44th Floor Los Angeles, California 90017-5844 |
| 6 | The videotaped deposition of RANDY HEISER, | 6 | 213-243-4238 |
| 7 | called by the Plaintiffs for examination, taken | 7 | BY: SEAN A. McCORMICK, ESQ. (Telephonically) sean.mccormick@arnoldporter.com |
| 8 | pursuant to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure of | 8 | · |
| 9 | the United States District Courts pertaining to the | 9 | ON BEHALF OF HBC SERVICES AND THE WITNESS: |
| 10 | taking of depositions, taken before JULIANA F. | _ | MARCUS & SHAPIRA LLP |
| 11 | ZAJICEK, a Registered Professional Reporter and a | 10 | One Oxford Centre, 35th Floor Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219 |
| | - | 11 | 412-471-3490 |
| 12 | Certified Shorthand Reporter, at the offices of | 12 | BY: JOSHUA A. KOBRIN, ESQ. kobrin@marcus-shapira.com |
| 13 | Marcus & Shapira, LLP, Suite 3500, One Oxford Centre, | 13 | • |
| 14 | Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on February 19, 2019, at | 14 | ON BEHALF OF McKESSON CORPORATION: |
| 15 | 9:02 a.m. | 1 4 | COVINGTON & BURLING, LLP |
| 16 | | 15 | One City Center 850 Tenth Street, NW |
| 17 | | 16 | Washington, D.C. 20001 |
| | | 1 7 | 202-662-5531 BY: RAJ PAUL, ESQ. |
| 18 | | 17 | rpaul@cov.com |
| 19 | | 18 19 | ON BEHALF OF WALMART INC.: |
| 20 | | 20 | JONES DAY |
| 21 | | 21 | 150 West Jefferson, Suite 2100 Detroit, Michigan 48226-4438 |
| 22 | | 21 | 313-733-3939 |
| 23 | | 22 | BY: RICHARD M. BRODSKY, ESQ. (Telephonically) rbrodsky@jonesday.com |
| 24 | | 23 | Torodsky w Jonesuay.com |
| 21 | | 24 | |
| | Page 3 | | Page 5 |
| 1 | APPEARANCES: | 1 | ALSO PRESENT: |
| 2 3 | ON BEHALF OF THE PLAINTIFFS: WAGSTAFF & CARTMELL LLP | 2 | COREY SMITH, Trial Technician |
| | 4740 Grand Avenue, Suite 300 | 3 | CHRIS RITONA, Videographer |
| 4 | Kansas City, Missouri 64112 816-701-1100 | | CIIKIS KITONA, Videographer |
| 5 | BY: TYLER W. HUDSON, ESQ. | 4 | |
| 6 | thudson@wcllp.com | 5 | |
| 7 | ON BEHALF OF AMERISOURCEBERGEN CORPORATION and | 6 | |
| | AMERISOURCEBERGEN DRUG CORPORATION: | 7 | |
| 8 | JACKSON KELLY PLLC | 8 | |
| 9 | 500 Lee Street East, Suite 1600 Charleston, West Virginia 25301-3202 | 9 | |
| 10 | 304-340-1018 | 10 | |
| 11 | BY: GRETCHEN M. CALLAS, ESQ. (Telephonically) gcallas@JacksonKelly.com | | |
| 11 | , | 11 | |
| 12 | ON BEHALF OF CARDINAL HEALTH, INC.: | 12 | |
| | PIETRAGALLO GORDON ALFANO | 13 | |
| 13 | | 1 | |
| | BOSICK & RASPANTI, LLP | 14 | |
| 13 | BOSICK & RASPANTI, LLP One Oxford Centre 301 Grant Street, 38th Floor | 14 15 | |
| 13 14 15 | One Oxford Centre 301 Grant Street, 38th Floor Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219 | 15 | |
| 13 14 | One Oxford Centre 301 Grant Street, 38th Floor | 15 16 | |
| 13 14 15 16 17 | One Oxford Centre 301 Grant Street, 38th Floor Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219 412-263-4348 | 15 16 17 | |
| 13 14 15 16 | One Oxford Centre 301 Grant Street, 38th Floor Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219 412-263-4348 BY: JOHN A. SCHWAB, ESQ. | 15 16 | |
| 13 14 15 16 17 18 | One Oxford Centre 301 Grant Street, 38th Floor Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219 412-263-4348 BY: JOHN A. SCHWAB, ESQ. jas@pietragallo.com ON BEHALF OF CVS INDIANA, LLC AND CVS RX SERVICES, INC. AND THE WITNESS IN HIS CAPACITY AS A CURRENT | 15 16 17 | |
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| | Page 6 | Page 8 |
| 1 | INDEX | behalf of HBC Service Company and the witness. |
| 2 | WITNESS DAGE | THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Thank you. |
| 3 | WITNESS: PAGE: | The court reporter today is Juliana |
| 4 | RANDY HEISER | 4 Zajicek and she will now please swear in the witness. |
| 5 | EXAM BY MR. HUDSON 8 | 5 (WHEREUPON, the witness was duly |
| 6 | | 6 sworn.) |
| 7 | **** | 7 RANDY HEISER, |
| 8 | | 8 called as a witness herein, having been first duly |
| 9 | EXHIBITS | ⁹ sworn, was examined and testified as follows: |
| 10 | HBC SERVICES-HEISER EXHIBITS MARKED FOR ID | 10 EXAMINATION |
| 11 | No. 1 Randy Heiser's LinkedIn Profile 11 | 11 BY MR. HUDSON: |
| 12 | No. 2 HBC Service Company's Second 34 | Q. Good morning, sir. |
| 13 | Amended Responses to Plaintiffs' | Could you state your name, please? |
| 14 | (First) Set of Combined Discovery | 14 A. Randy Heiser. |
| 15 | Requests | Q. And, Mr. Heiser, where do you currently |
| 16 | No. 3 E-mail chain, top one dated 43 | 16 reside? |
| 17 | 11/1/2010, Subject: RE: Pain mgt; | A. I currently reside at 5620 King School |
| 18 | MCKMDL00512974 - 977 | 18 Road in Bethel Park, Pennsylvania. |
| 19 | | Q. Have you ever had your deposition taken |
| 20 | | 20 before? |
| 21 | | 21 A. Yes. |
| 22 | | Q. How many times? |
| 23 | | A. I think it's three prior to this. |
| 24 | | Q. Okay. If you could, just briefly describe |
| | | |
| | Paga 7 | Page 0 |
| 1 | Page 7 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are now on the record. My | Page 9 |
| 1 2 | THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are now on the record. My | 1 what those cases involved? |
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- 1 A. Yes, sir.
- Q. And do you also -- will you also let me
- 3 know if I ask an unclear question so I can rephrase
- 4 it?
- 5 A. Sure.
- 6 Q. Okay. And is it fair that if you answer
- 7 my question that I can assume that you understood it?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. And if you want to take a break at any
- 10 time, just let me know and we can go off the record.
- 11 Okay?
- 12 A. Okay.
- Q. The only thing I would ask is just if
- 14 there is a question pending that you answer it before
- 15 we go off the record.
- 16 A. Okay.
- Q. Is that fair?
- 18 A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Okay. Tell me, what did you do to prepare
- ²⁰ for the deposition today?
- A. I spent a couple of hours yesterday with
- 22 this office talking to -- to attorneys.
- Q. Did you do anything else?
- 24 A. No, sir.

- ¹ BY MR. HUDSON:
 - Q. Does this look like your CV or resume? Or

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- ³ I would -- not sure of the right term to use, but your
- ⁴ information from LinkedIn relating to your
- ⁵ professional career?
- 6 A. It seems to be correct.
 - Q. Okay. And there on the second page of
- 8 Exhibit 1 it lists your education?
- ⁹ A. That is correct.
 - Q. Okay. Did you obtain a degree from The
- 11 Wharton School?
- A. I did not. Those were certificate
- 13 programs for week-long educational classes.
- Q. Okay. And then how about Shenandoah
- ¹⁵ University?

10

- A. Yes, I have a Doctor of Pharmacy from
- 17 Shenandoah University.
- Q. And then if we go back to the first page,
- ¹⁹ does this accurately describe your professional
- 20 experience?
- ²¹ A. Yes.
- Q. And this indicates that you spent 16 years
- at Giant Eagle as the VP of Pharmacy?
- A. Well, the math doesn't -- the math is not

Page 11

- Q. Did you look at any documents that
- ² refreshed your recollection about any topics relating
- 3 to your time at Giant Eagle?
- 4 A. Yesterday, yes.
- 5 Q. Anything that sticks out that you recall?
- 6 MR. KOBRIN: Objection. We showed him certain
- 7 documents and I'm going to assert that the collection
- 8 of those documents is work product privilege. You can
- 9 ask him if he remembers anything, but I don't want you
- 10 to go too far beyond that.
- MR. HUDSON: Yeah, that's what I'm asking him,
- 12 is what --
- 13 BY MR. HUDSON:
- Q. Do you -- did that re --
- MR. KOBRIN: Just yes or no.
- 16 BY MR. HUDSON:
- Q. -- refresh your recollection?
- 18 A. Yes.
- Q. If we could, just shift gears. I'm going
- 20 to mark here as Exhibit 1 a print-off off of LinkedIn.
- 21 (WHEREUPON, a certain document was
- 22 marked HBC Heiser Deposition
- Exhibit No. 1, for identification, as
- of 02/19/2019.)

- ¹ correct. It is 15 years.
 - 2 O. Oh.
 - ³ A. '96 to 2011.
 - 4 Q. Okay.
 - 5 A. And the math is not correct with McKesson.
 - 6 That was not two years. If you can start in '12 and
 - ⁷ leave in '13, it is not going to be two years.
 - 8 Q. Right. No, I understand that. I -- I --
 - 9 my guess is that's probably something on LinkedIn
 - 10 where they --
 - 11 A. It could -- could be how they calculate
 - ¹² it, but --
 - Q. -- do the math based on the months or
 - 14 something. But anyway...
 - A. -- but these positions are correct. The
 - 16 timing is not correct.
 - Q. Yeah, the -- the ballpark?
 - A. The positions are correct.
 - Q. Right. Okay. 15, 16 years at Giant
 - 20 Eagle.

- 21 At some point did Giant Eagle decide to
- ²² become a distributor of Schedule III, IV and V
- 23 controlled substances?
- 24 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. Were you involved in that decision-making?
- 2 A. Yes.
- ³ Q. Why did Giant Eagle decide to become a
- 4 distributor of Controlled III, IV and V -- or excuse
- 5 me -- Schedule III, IV and V controlled substances?
- 6 A. Part of my responsibility in -- in running
- ⁷ the pharmacy business at Giant Eagle is to look for
- 8 opportunities to streamline how we receive product,
- 9 look for efficiencies, and look for the most
- 10 economical way to run the business at --
- Q. Did -- I'm sorry. Go ahead. I didn't
- 12 mean to cut you off.
- A. And, you know, we made a decision based
- 14 upon some of the practices that we saw in the industry
- 15 that it would make sense for us to become a self
- 16 distributor.
- Q. Did you or others at Giant Eagle run
- 18 financial models to determine whether or not it would
- 19 be more profitable for Giant Eagle to become a
- 20 distributor?
- MR. KOBRIN: Object to form.
- You can answer.
- 23 BY THE WITNESS:
- A. We ran financial models to look at being a

- ¹ BY MR. HUDSON:
- Q. Do you have any sense of what the
- ³ projected savings looked like for -- in terms of the

Page 16

Page 17

- ⁴ bottom line to Giant Eagle if they self distributed
- ⁵ generic pharmaceuticals, including Schedule III, IV
- 6 and V controlled substances?
 - A. I don't recall what that number was.
- Q. Do you -- do you have any ballpark sense,
- ⁹ in other words, was it tens of millions of dollars,
- 10 just any -- any idea at all of what the cost savings
- would look like?
- 12 A. I -- I -- I don't know.
 - Q. Is it your understanding that in 2009
- 14 Giant Eagle did obtain a DEA distributor license to
- 15 distribute controlled -- Schedule III, IV and V
- ¹⁶ controlled substances?
- A. That date sounds about correct.
- Q. And that license was put in the name HBC
- 19 Service Company, is that your recollection?
- A. It was in the HBC building in Washington,
- 21 Pennsylvania, but I don't recall the -- the naming of
- 22 it.

13

- Q. Okay. Do you -- and that was going to be
- ²⁴ my question is I'll represent to you that the name on

Page 15

- 1 self distributor of generic products. It was not
- 2 solely looking at controlled substances. We were
- 3 looking at all of the generic lines to become a self
- 4 distributor.
- 5 BY MR. HUDSON:
- 6 Q. And why generics versus brand?
- A. With the branded product, you only have
- 8 one company that is making the product. With a
- 9 generic product, you've got two people that are
- 10 producing it or more than two people that are
- 11 producing it and you have the ability to create a
- 12 better economic position when you've got more than one
- 13 person making that product.
- 14 Q. Were you personally involved in trying to
- 15 determine how much money Giant Eagle can save by
- 16 becoming a self distributor?
- MR. KOBRIN: Object to form.
- 18 BY THE WITNESS:
- 19 A. I would say I was one of a -- of a large
- 20 team of people that was doing that analysis, including
- 21 people in the distribution side, people that were
- 22 involved in category management, financial folks. It
- 23 was a -- a team project from a number of individuals
- 24 within the organization.

- 1 the license is HBC Service Company.
- 2 Do you have any recollection of -- you
- 3 know, or involvement in that decision-making that the
- 4 licensee for that -- or the -- or the -- the name on
- 5 the license was HBC as opposed to Giant Eagle?
- 6 MR. KOBRIN: Object to form.
- 7 BY THE WITNESS:
- 8 A. I -- I don't recall how that was decided.
- 9 I'm assuming it was a combination of legal and
- 10 distribution people making that decision.
- 11 BY MR. HUDSON:
- Q. Were -- did you play any role in -- in
- 13 that decision?
- 14 A. Not that I recall.
- Q. And is it your recollection that HBC
- 16 started acting as a distributor of Schedule III, IV
- and V controlled substances in around November
- 18 of 2009?

20

- Does that sound about right?
 - A. That sounds about right.
- Q. Okay. And then you left Giant Eagle at
- 22 some point in 2011, correct?
 - A. Correct. October of 2011.
- Q. So -- so Giant -- or HBC acted as a

- 1 distributor of controlled substances for a little less
- 2 than two years while you were still there?
- A. That's -- well. I don't recall when we
- 4 actually brought the controls in. I know that we
- 5 started with generics and then my recollection is at
- 6 some point we added the controls. That dating sounds
- about correct, but I don't recall the exact date.
- 8 Q. Sure, sure.
- 9 And the records will reflect what they
- 10 were. And, again, I'll -- I'll represent to you that
- 11 they show that -- that the -- the controlleds started
- 12 in -- in about November of 2009 --
- 13 A. Okay.
- 14 Q. -- so...
- 15 During that time period, do you have any
- 16 recollection of whether or not HBC designed a system
- to identify suspicious orders of controlled
- 18 substances?
- 19 A. We had an integrated system in place to
- 20 monitor the movement of all controls. It started as
- we received product from the warehouse. It was
- 22 scanned and electronically recorded. When it was
- placed on the shelves, again, it was scanned and
- 24 electronically recorded. When it was dispensed or
 - Page 19
- 1 when it was -- an order was picked based upon a
- ² store's order, it was scanned and electronically
- ³ recorded. When the totes were placed in a truck, it
- 4 was scanned and electronically recorded. When those
- ⁵ delivery vehicles arrived at the Giant Eagle location,
- 6 the totes were scanned and electronically recorded.
- ⁷ When the merchandise was unpacked, it was, again,
- 8 scanned and electronically recorded. When we
- dispensed the product through our dispensing system,
- 10 the product was scanned and electronically recorded.
- 11 When we gave the medicine to the patient, it went
- 12 through our cash register, it was scanned and
- 13 recorded.
- 14 We also had corporate oversight of both
- the stores and the warehouse. The warehouse had
- 16 buyers that were monitoring from a human perspective
- 17 the orders that were placed by the stores and also the
- 18 orders that were placed to the manufacturers. The
- 19 system to monitor the store activity involved our
- 20 pharmacists who are required to on a monthly basis
- 21 compare dispensing activity to purchase activity,
- 22 identify discrepancies, and try to find out what
- 23 those -- why those discrepancies occurred.
- 24 Our district managers were responsible to

- 1 verify that that analysis of dispensing activity
- 2 versus purchasing activity was being conducted
- properly. And our vice president of pharmacy
- 4 operations was responsible to see that our district
- managers were performing those particular follow-ups.
- So we had a -- a fully integrated system
- of controls in place to be sure that we were trying to
- detect and prevent any type of theft or diversion.
- Q. My question was more specific. My
- question was: Did HBC design a system to identify
- suspicious orders of controlled substances?
- 12 So my question is what -- to you, what is
- a suspicious order of a controlled substance?
- 14 A. I mean, we -- me -- our integrated system
- looked for, you know, any -- any types of -- of
- deviations. Our focus was on theft and the -- you
- know, ways to -- to get it -- get it out if anyone was
- taking it out of the system.
- 19 The buyers were looking at, you know,
- orders as they were coming in. So if someone, you
- know, was on -- if they saw something that came in and
- they said they wanted 40 pieces and they have never
- ordered 40 pieces, they would typically call to see if
- it was a -- a fat finger situation or if the system,

- 1 you know, somehow made a computer error and set that
- ² order up and it should have been four rather than 40.
- 3 You know, that's, you know, an example of something
- 4 that, you know, might be considered suspicious.
 - Q. Do you -- but do you have a definition of
- a suspicious order? In other words, during -- and let
- me be more specific about that.
- During the time that you were at Giant
- Eagle and Giant Eagle was considering becoming a
- distributor of controlled substances, was one of the
- things that Giant Eagle looked at is trying to design
- a system specifically focused on suspicious orders?
- 13 MR. KOBRIN: Object to form.
- 14 BY THE WITNESS:
- 15 A. Well, I think -- I mean, the integrated
- system that I described is in place to identify any
- type of suspicious orders or theft or diversion.
- 18 BY MR. HUDSON:
- 19 Q. Okay. And so in your mind, what is a
- 20 suspicious order?
- 21 MR. KOBRIN: Object to form, asked and answered.
- 22 THE WITNESS: Am I supposed to answer that?
- 23 MR. KOBRIN: I'll tell you -- if you are not
- 24 meant to answer it, I will definitely say stop, hold

1 on a minute.

² BY THE WITNESS:

- A. I don't think that I'm in a position to
- 4 define what you think a suspicious order is. I mean,
- 5 you tell me what's a suspicious order and I'll tell
- 6 you if we had a system in place to identify it, but
- ⁷ I -- I -- I'm -- I'm not Webster's dictionary.
- 8 I'm not sure what your definition of a suspicious
- 9 order is.

10 BY MR. HUDSON:

- 11 Q. Sure. We're not --
- A. And I've fully described all of the
- 13 systems that we had integrated to be sure that product
- 14 was moving properly and that we had the right controls
- 15 in place to identify any issues that might occur in
- 16 that entire supply chain.
- Q. Were you -- do you have a recollection
- 18 that you or others were focused on designing a system
- 19 that specifically met the requirements of the
- 20 Controlled Substances Act?
- MR. KOBRIN: Object to form, asked and answered,
- 22 vague.
- 23 BY THE WITNESS:
- A. The system that I described as far as the

Page 24

- 1 meetings where Giant Eagle was taking steps to meet
- 2 the requirements of the Controlled Substances Act?
- 3 MR. KOBRIN: Object to form, asked and answered.
- 4 BY THE WITNESS:
- 5 A. I -- I don't recall if I was involved in
- 6 specific meetings about meeting the requirements, but,
- 7 again, it was a -- it was a team approach involving
- 8 HBC Services, our loss prevention folks, legal folks
- 9 internally, but I don't recall a specific meeting
- 10 concerning that.
- 11 BY MR. HUDSON:
- Q. Do you know whether or not in 2009, 2010
- $13\,\,$ or 2011 where you are at HBC if -- or excuse me --
- 14 when you were at Giant Eagle if Giant Eagle or HBC
- 15 used any computer software programs to monitor the
- orders and shipments of controlled substances?
- A. I'm confident that there were. I couldn't
- tell you the name of the system, but I know that we
- 19 did have electronic measuring devices. We scanned the
- 20 orders, tracked the orders. So I'm assuming, again,
- 21 that we used the existing software that was in place
- that was used to track the movement of other types of
- products in that particular warehouse.
- Q. But I guess my question is more specific.

Page 23

- 1 integration of all of the systems in place, both at
- 2 the warehouse and store level, were put in place to
- 3 fulfill the requirements that are in the Controlled
- 4 Substances Act.
- 5 BY MR. HUDSON:
- 6 Q. And were you or others, that -- that you
- 7 are aware of, involved in that process? In other
- 8 words, were you part of the group that was trying to
- 9 put in place a -- a system that would meet the
- 10 requirements of the Controlled Substances Act?
- 11 A. I think there were a number of people that
- 12 were involved. I would say that my direct report Greg
- 13 Carlson, who is responsible for all of the purchasing
- 14 of pharmaceuticals within Giant Eagle, had the direct
- 15 responsibility. He did have meetings with the DEA who
- 16 did on-site inspection before we were granted any type
- 17 of a distributorship license to the DEA. So we met
- 18 the requirements. So that representative was happy
- 19 with the controls that we had in place and granted us
- 20 the permit.
- Q. Did you personally talk to anyone at the
- 22 DEA during that process?
- A. I do not recall that, no.
- Q. Were you personally involved in any

Do you have any -- any recollection of a

- ² process that Giant Eagle or HBC used to -- using
- ³ computer software to try to identify unusual orders of

- 4 controlled substances?
- A. Well, the integrated system that I
- 6 described earlier would identify anything that was out
- ⁷ of the ordinary with the scanning that's going to
- 8 occur from the time it enters until we actually place
- ⁹ the prescription in the hands of the consumer.
- Q. And how would it do that, how would it
- 1 identify -- for example, how would it identify an
- order of unusual size?
- How did the -- how did the computer
- 14 program work?
- MR. KOBRIN: Object to form.
- 16 BY THE WITNESS:
- A. Again, I -- I was not the person that was
- looking at those particular reports, but I think in my
- 19 previous definition, I described that there were
- 20 pharmacy buyers that were looking at the orders that
- were sent from the stores to the HBC facility and
- 22 those buyers were also looking at the orders that were
- 23 sent to the pharmaceutical manufacturers.
- 24 BY MR. HUDSON:

- Q. Between 2009 and 2011 when you were at
- ² Giant Eagle, how many orders or shipments of
- 3 controlled substances did Giant Eagle or HBC identify
- 4 as suspicious?
- 5 A. I don't recall.
- 6 Q. Between 2009 and 2011 when you were at
- ⁷ Giant Eagle, did -- did you have a corporate process
- 8 for documenting the -- the integrated system, you
- 9 know, the steps in the integrated system that you've
- 10 talked about?
- 11 MR. KOBRIN: Object to form.
- 12 BY THE WITNESS:
- 13 A. The -- the -- when the scanning occurs,
- 14 there is going to be an electronic record of that. I
- 15 don't know how long that record would exist
- 16 electronically. I do know that at Giant Eagle we had
- 17 a document retention policy and certain records were
- 18 kept for a certain period of time and, you know, then
- 19 were automatically deleted.
- 20 BY MR. HUDSON:
- Q. Do you know whether or not while you were
- 22 at Giant Eagle they had a computer system with
- 23 algorithms that would be monitoring the orders of
- 24 controlled substances?

- 1 A. I'm not familiar with that term.
 - ² BY MR. HUDSON:
 - Q. How about pharmacy comparison rule?
 - 4 MR. KOBRIN: Object to form.
 - ⁵ BY THE WITNESS:
 - 6 A. I'm not familiar with that term.
 - ⁷ BY MR. HUDSON:
 - Q. Okay. Are you aware of any rules that
 - ⁹ Giant Eagle or HBC employed to try to identify
 - o suspicious orders at the distributor level?
 - 11 A. Yeah, I think I've already described our
 - 12 integrated approach as to how we were monitoring
 - 13 movement from the time that it hit the dock at HBC
 - 14 Services until it was placed in the hands of the
 - 15 ultimate patient.
 - Q. And I guess what I'm trying to -- trying
 - 17 to figure out is, is you -- you've described an
 - 18 integrated system, and I think you've said this, but
 - 19 it was focused largely on tracking the inventory to
 - ²⁰ avoid theft.
 - 21 Is that fair?
 - MR. KOBRIN: Object to form, misrepresents the

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- ²³ testimony.
- 24 BY THE WITNESS:

- A. I'm not aware of that level of detail.
- Q. Do you know whether or not Giant Eagle or
- ³ HBC employed the monthly total rule to monitor
- 4 controlled substances?
- 5 MR. KOBRIN: Object to form.
- 6 BY THE WITNESS:
- A. I'm not aware of that language.
- 8 BY MR. HUDSON:
- 9 Q. Do you know whether or not Giant Eagle
- 10 employed the consecutive order rule to monitor
- 11 controlled substances?
- MR. KOBRIN: Object to form.
- 13 BY THE WITNESS:
- 14 A. I'm not aware of that term either.
- 15 BY MR. HUDSON:
- Q. Okay. Would the same be true for
- ¹⁷ multi-distributor rule?
- MR. KOBRIN: Object to form.
- 19 BY THE WITNESS:
- A. I'm not familiar with that term.
- 21 BY MR. HUDSON:
- Q. Okay. How about percentage increase rule?
- MR. KOBRIN: Object to form.
- 24 BY THE WITNESS:

- A. We were looking at theft and -- and
- ² diversion and looking to meet all of the requirements
- ³ that are in the Controlled Substances Act, and I think
- 4 our integrated system as described met the
- ⁵ requirements that are set forth in -- in that
- 6 regulation.
- 7 BY MR. HUDSON:
- 8 Q. Well, what -- sir, what are the
- ⁹ requirements of the Controlled Substances Act as they
- 10 relate to monitoring suspicious orders?
- MR. KOBRIN: Object to form.
- 12 Are you going to show him anything or are
- 13 you just hoping that he'll recall the requirements of
- 14 the CSA on his own?
- MR. HUDSON: He has testified that the company
- 16 met all of the requirements, so I want to know, what
- 17 are they?
- MR. KOBRIN: So you just want him to --
- MR. HUDSON: Well, if he is testifying that
- 20 he -- he knows that they met the requirements, then I
- 21 assume he knows what the requirements are. I think
- 22 it's a fair question.
- MR. KOBRIN: Okay. I mean, if he can --
- 24 BY MR. HUDSON:

Q. So, sir --

2 MR. KOBRIN: -- if he can give an --

³ BY MS. HUDSON:

4 Q. So --

1

5 MR. KOBRIN: -- exposition on the law to you

6 right now without any documents in front of him or

⁷ anything, that's fine. I'm happy to have him do it,

8 but I think that that's an unreasonable question.

9 BY THE WITNESS:

10 A. My recollection is that we met all of the

11 requirements of the Controlled Substances Act as

12 documented by our receipt of a permit from the DEA.

13 BY MR. HUDSON:

Q. And -- and is that where -- I guess that's

where I'm trying to understand is, is you're saying,

16 as you sit here today, you can testify under oath that

17 from 2009 to 2011 when you were at Giant Eagle you're

18 confident that you met all of the requirements of the

19 Controlled Substances Act, is that because the DEA

20 allowed you, the company, to act as a distributor, or

21 is there something more specific that you can point to

22 to support that assertion?

MR. KOBRIN: Object to form. He has gone

24 through a ton of specifics as to what supports that

rage 3

1 require -- required measurements and processes in

² place. But I am not sitting here today saying I'm an

³ expert in the Controlled Substances Act.

4 BY MR. HUDSON:

Q. And that's all I'm trying to do is, is

6 understand what you do and don't know.

Do you know whether or not Giant Eagle or

8 HBC ever notified the DEA field division office about

9 any suspicious orders of controlled substances?

MR. KOBRIN: During what time period?

11 BY MR. HUDSON:

12 O. 2009 to 2011.

MR. KOBRIN: Object to form. Asked and

14 answered.

15 BY THE WITNESS:

A. I'm not aware of any situations that we

had to identify -- that were identified that we had to

18 inform the DEA.

19 BY MR. HUDSON:

Q. Are you aware of any time between 2009 and

21 2011 where Giant Eagle or HBC did identify a

22 suspicious order of controlled substances?

A. I am not aware of any.

MR. KOBRIN: Object to form, asked and answered.

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1 assertion.

2 But go ahead if you want to repeat them.

3 BY THE WITNESS:

4 A. We had an integrated system approach to

5 monitor all of the movement of -- of the activity, to

6 monitor any type of -- of theft and diversion once

⁷ that particular product came in to the Giant Eagle

8 system that I described previously.

9 BY MR. HUDSON:

Q. Do you know whether or not under the

11 Controlled Substances Act a registrant shall design

12 and operate a system to disclose to the registrant

13 suspicious orders of controlled substances?

MR. KOBRIN: Object to form.

15 BY THE WITNESS:

A. I'd have to see the -- I mean, I -- I

17 don't have the Controlled Substances Act embedded in

18 my brain. I'd be happy to review it if you want me

19 to, but, again, it was a number of years ago that we

20 put the systems in place to comply.

Our -- our -- our internal legal

22 counsel was on that team as we put together that

23 particular program. The DEA gave us a permit showing

24 that they were confident that we had all of the

1 BY MR. HUDSON:

Q. As you sit here today, is it your belief

3 that there -- to the best of your knowledge, that

4 there were no suspicious orders that came through the

5 HBC warehouse between 2009 and 2011?

6 MR. KOBRIN: Object to form, asked and answered.

7 BY THE WITNESS:

8 A. That is my recollection.

9 BY MR. HUDSON:

Q. Do you -- do you recall whether or not

11 Giant Eagle or HBC put any written policies or

12 procedures in place between 2009 and 2011 to address

13 steps being taken to identify suspicious orders of

14 controlled substances?

5 A. I'm sure that we have at the warehouse

16 level. The procedures that I've recently described

with our integrated program of scanning the

8 merchandise as it comes in and, you know, scanning it

as it's placed on the shelves, scanning the totes as

20 it leaves, I'm confident that there was a procedure

manual in place that documents those particular steps.

Q. As you sit here today, do you have any --

any recollection, and I wouldn't be surprised if you

24 don't because it's been years ago, but do you have any

- 1 recollection of what was documented in writing?
- 2 A. I don't have any personal recollection.
- 3 (WHEREUPON, a certain document was
- 4 marked HBC Heiser Deposition
- 5 Exhibit No. 2, for identification, as
- of 02/19/2019.)
- ⁷ BY MR. HUDSON:
- 8 Q. Okay. I'm just going to hand you here,
- ⁹ real quick, what I've marked as Exhibit 2, and this is
- 10 just some responses by HBC to some questions that we
- 11 had.
- And if you turn to Page 2 -- oh, excuse
- 13 me. If you turn to Page 8. And if you look there at
- 14 Question 2, you can see there, we asked:
- 15 "Please produce each of your suspicious
- 16 order monitoring system policies and procedures since
- ¹⁷ January 1st, 2006, and identify the Bates range for
- 18 each. Please identify the effective date each was in
- 19 force and effect."
- Do you see that?
- A. Yes, I see it.
- Q. Okay. Now, if we turn back, there is
- 23 some -- the response then follows that and there is
- 24 some objections, but then if you look on Pages 9 and

- 1 or not that integrated system had components that were
- 2 specifically designed to identify suspicious orders of
- 3 controlled substances?
- 4 MR. KOBRIN: Object to form.
- 5 BY THE WITNESS:
- 6 A. I think I've already described how the
- 7 system was in place to -- to monitor the movement and
- 8 to identify anything that was out of line.
- 9 BY MR. HUDSON:
 - Q. Right. And as part of that, do you know
- 11 as you sit here today whether or not that involved
- 12 monitoring and identifying orders of controlled
- 13 substances of unusual size?
- MR. KOBRIN: Object to form, asked and answered.
- 15 BY THE WITNESS:
- 16 A. I -- I think I've already answered the
- 17 fact that we had people at a corporate level that were
- 18 monitoring the orders that were sent from the store to
- 19 the HBC warehouse. Those buyers were also monitoring
- 20 the orders that were sent from the warehouse to the
- 21 manufacturers.
- 22 BY MR. HUDSON:
- Q. So who -- who at corporate was monitoring
- 24 orders of controlled substances to identify those of

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- 1 10, the companies responded, and do you see at the
- ² bottom of Page 9, the first written policy identified
- 3 is there at that Bates range and then it says it's
- 4 effective from 8/1 of 2014.
- 5 Do you see -- do you see that at the
- 6 bottom?
- A. I see the sentence: "Apparent version of
- 8 HBC policy effective 8/1 of 2014."
- 9 Q. Okay. And then if we look to the next
- 10 page, I think you'll see that the rest of the written
- 11 policies identified become later, you know, later in
- 12 time as opposed to earlier in time.
- My -- my -- given that the company has
- 14 identified the first written policy as being
- ¹⁵ August 1st of 2014, my question is simply: Do you
- 16 have any recollection of any written policies or
- 17 procedures relating to suspicious order -- a
- 18 suspicious order monitoring system that were in effect
- 19 prior to August 1st of 2014?
- A. I mean, I think I've already described
- 21 these integrated systems that were in place to monitor
- 22 the movement of all products throughout the Giant
- 23 Eagle supply chain.
- Q. And can you say under oath today whether

- 1 unusual size?
- 2 MR. KOBRIN: Object to form.
- ³ BY THE WITNESS:
- 4 A. I think I already -- I already stated they
- ⁵ were -- they were pharmacy buyers that were
- 6 responsible for monitor -- monitoring those orders.
- ⁷ BY MR. HUDSON:
- 8 Q. And who were the pharmacy buyers, what
- ⁹ were their names?
- 10 A. I don't recall.
 - Q. What did the pharmacy buyers do to monitor
- the orders to try to identify those of unusual size?
- 13 A. They are -- they are looking at the orders
- 14 that came from the pharmacies before they actually
- submit their orders into the manufacturers.
- Q. How often did they review those orders?
- 17 A. I don't recall.
- Q. Well, what was the criteria being applied
- 19 to try to determine whether it was an order of unusual
- 20 size?

- A. I don't recall.
- Q. How many orders did the pharmacy buyers
- 23 identify during the time that you were there that --
- 24 that were identified as being potentially suspicious

- 1 because they were of unusual size?
- 2 A. I'm not aware.
- Q. Were the buyers at the corporate level
- 4 that were looking at orders also attempting to
- ⁵ identify orders of unusual frequency?
- 6 MR. KOBRIN: Object to form.
- 7 BY THE WITNESS:
- 8 A. I'm -- they were -- they were monitoring
- 9 all orders that were coming from the stores and then
- 10 subsequent orders that were being placed by the -- to
- 11 the manufacturers.
- 12 BY MR. HUDSON:
- Q. Is there any way, as we sit here today, we
- 14 can figure out in any sort of detail what the -- what
- 15 the pharmacy buyers were actually doing on a
- 16 day-to-day basis to monitor those orders?
- A. I don't recall that level of detail.
- Q. Do you know whether that -- they generated
- 19 any reports or documented any -- any of their efforts?
- A. I'm -- I'm not aware of what their --
- 21 those types of specific day-to-day activities were.
- Q. Do you recall during your two years at
- 23 Giant Eagle whether or not any reports ever made their
- 24 way to you documenting activity related to monitoring

- 1 ask him those questions?
 - 2 A. He would probably have a better
 - ³ recollection of -- of who those people were.
 - Q. In your time at Giant Eagle, did there
 - 5 ever -- did there ever come a time where from a -- a

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- 6 corporate standpoint there was a concern about
- ⁷ controlled substances or opioids being diverted?
- 8 MR. KOBRIN: Object to form.
- 9 BY THE WITNESS:
- O A. No, there was never a situation that I'm
- 11 aware of that caused concern.
- 12 BY MR. HUDSON:
 - Q. How about just from a -- a policy or, you
- 14 know, a potential risk standpoint, was Giant Eagle or
- 15 HBC concerned about opioids being diverted?
- MR. KOBRIN: Object to form.
- 17 BY THE WITNESS:
- A. The -- the integrated system we had in
- place was such that the -- the risk was -- was very
- 20 minimal. So there was not a high level of concern.
- 21 BY MR. HUDSON:
 - Q. During your time at Giant Eagle, so
- 23 between 2009 and 2011, are you aware of any efforts by
- 24 Giant Eagle to try to determine whether or not its

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- r age 37
- A. No, I don't recall any of those type of
- ³ reports.
- 4 Q. Did you spend any part of day-to-day --
- ⁵ did you spend any time in your role looking at and
- 6 trying to determine whether or not HBC had -- was
- ⁷ operating a system that was identifying suspicious
- 8 orders of controlled substances?

1 orders of controlled substances?

- 9 A. No.
- Q. Who -- were there others who you believe
- 11 were spending time doing that?
- 12 A. Greg Carlson.
- MR. KOBRIN: Object to form. Spending time
- 14 doing what?
- 15 BY MR. HUDSON:
- Q. Did you understand my question?
- 17 A. Yeah. Greg Carlson was my direct report
- ¹⁸ who had oversight over all of pharmaceutical
- 19 purchasing for Giant Eagle.
- Q. Anyone else that would have been involved?
- A. He would have the -- he would have direct
- ²² responsibility.
- Q. Do you know whether or not he worked with
- 24 anyone else under him or would it be better just to

- ¹ integrated system was effective?
- ² MR. KOBRIN: Object to form.
- ³ BY THE WITNESS:
- ⁴ A. I'm not sure I understand the question.
- ⁵ BY MR. HUDSON:
- 6 Q. Well, for example, did you ever hire a
- ⁷ third-party consultant or do, you know, any review
- 8 process on the integrated test -- system that you've
- ⁹ testified about to try to determine whether or not it
- was effectively preventing diversion?
- MR. KOBRIN: Object to form.
- 12 BY THE WITNESS:
- A. I'm not aware of any outside consulting
- ¹⁴ entity that was brought in to evaluate the system.
- 15 BY MR. HUDSON:
- Q. How about any sort of internal review
- 17 process?
- A. I'm not aware of an internal review after
- 19 the initial project plan that was put together that
- ²⁰ went forward with developing it that had input from
- ¹ logistics, distribution, legal, accounting, IT.
- Q. And was there -- was there a central file
- ²³ or somewhere where Giant Eagle or HBC kept that
- ²⁴ initial project plan document or documents?

- 1 MR. KOBRIN: Object to form.
- ² BY THE WITNESS:
- A. I'm not aware of a project plan, but as I
- 4 stated earlier, there is a document retention policy
- ⁵ at Giant Eagle, and, you know, that -- if -- if there
- 6 was a document that would have been destroyed based
- 7 upon the normal deletion timeframe that's in that
- 8 document retention policy.
- 9 BY MR. HUDSON:
- Q. Were you involved in trying to identify
- 11 corporate opportunities to grow the revenue at Giant
- 12 Eagle or HBC?
- A. At Giant Eagle pharmacy, yes.
- Q. Okay. And at some point did Giant Eagle
- 15 identify pain management clinics as a potential
- 16 corporate opportunity?
- A. I was involved in evaluating pharmacies
- 18 that looked at pain management.
- Q. And tell me what your involvement was.
- 20 A. I had meetings with Cleveland Clinic, I
- 21 had meetings with an entity in the State of Texas, I
- 22 made a trip to Oregon to meet with a chain, a small
- 23 chain that I don't recall the name, and, you know,
- 24 after deliberation we made a decision that that was

- 1 e-mail, he is on Page 2, but I note that there are
 - ² further e-mails that he has never reviewed above that
 - ³ e-mail.
 - 4 BY MR. HUDSON:
 - 5 Q. Okay. Well, let's just -- yeah. If you
 - 6 could just hand that back to me then.
 - I mean, my question...
 - 8 MR. KOBRIN: I mean, if they've consented,
 - 9 that's fine too.
 - MR. HUDSON: Well, I've sent it to them a number
 - of times, so I know that they're aware of it.
 - 12 BY MR. HUDSON:
 - Q. If you could, just focus on the e-mail
 - 14 there that you wrote on Page 2 there.
 - Do you see there it says:
 - "Jeff, We are currently evaluating 'pain
 - mgt' as a corporate business opportunity. Looking at
 - 18 the Cleveland marketplace to begin (already in
 - 19 conversations with the Cleveland Clinic). Please give
 - me a call this week to discuss."
 - Do you see that?
 - A. Yes, I do see that.
 - Q. Okay. And is that -- is that a reference
 - 24 to what you are talking about is efforts that you made

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- 1 one of many potential pharmacy business building
- ² ventures that we were not going to pursue.
- 3 (WHEREUPON, a certain document was
- 4 marked HBC Heiser Deposition
- 5 Exhibit No. 3, for identification, as
- 6 of 02/19/2019.)
- 7 BY MR. HUDSON:
- 8 Q. Let me hand you what I have marked as
- 9 Exhibit 3.
- MR. KOBRIN: Have you talked to McKesson about
- 11 showing this to our client?
- MR. HUDSON: Yes. I've sent that to them a
- 13 number of times in the past and also he is on the
- 14 document, so...
- MR. KOBRIN: All right. So he has seen this
- 16 whole document?
- 17 MR. HUDSON: Who?
- MR. KOBRIN: The witness, Mr. Heiser has?
- MR. HUDSON: Well, he's -- he wrote the e-mail.
- 20 It is his e-mail on Page 2.
- MR. KOBRIN: Right. But he is not copied on the
- 22 above e-mail. I just want to make sure that McKesson
- 23 is okay with us showing a confidential document to
- ²⁴ Mr. Heiser, despite the fact that I know that his

- 1 to identify pharmacies and potentially form
- 2 relationships with them?
- 3 A. This was a potential business venture to
- 4 open pharmacies that focused on pain management. It's
- 5 a venture that we decided to not pursue.
- Q. So when you -- so you would be -- you were
- 7 looking at actually opening up pharmacies in
- 8 conjunction with the Cleveland Clinic or other pain
- 9 management clinics?
- 10 A. Correct.
- Q. Okay. Not -- in -- instead I guess what I
- 12 took that e-mail to mean was that you were looking at
- 13 forming, like, relationships where you would work with
- 14 pain management clinics to have the, you know,
- 15 prescriptions filled through existing Giant Eagle
- 16 pharmacies?
- A. No. It was -- it was a potential business
- 18 venture to actually open up pharmacies that
- 19 specialized in pain management but were fully owned by
- 20 Giant Eagle.

- Q. Do you know at what point that you decided
- 22 not to pursue those ventures?
- A. I don't recall.
 - Q. Anything else you can recall about steps

- 1 that you or others took to look into corporate
- ² business opportunities relating to pain management
- 3 clinics?
- 4 A. Pain management was just one of dozens of
- 5 different opportunities that we looked at every year,
- 6 including nursing homes, buying independent
- ⁷ pharmacies, potentially getting into mail-order
- 8 business. We looked at all types of things every year
- ⁹ when we created our business plan. This was just one
- 10 of the ones that we looked at and one that we -- of
- 11 many that we decided not to pursue.
- Q. Between 2009 and 2011, did you ever pursue
- 13 any internet pharmacies or mail-order pharmacies?
- 14 A. No. Nope.
- Q. Did you -- did you ever have any sort of
- specialty pharmacies between 2009 and 2011 that Giant
- 17 Eagle opened?
- A. No. I think that -- that started after I
- 19 left, specialty pharmacy, but there was no specialty
- 20 pharmacy while I was there.
- Q. Did you -- between 2009 and 2011, did you
- 22 personally have any role in evaluating any diversion
- 23 or theft that occurred at any of the Giant Eagle
- 24 retail pharmacies?

1 to my area," right?

- A. Well, no, I mean, I know there are
- 3 pharmacists that had issues with stealing that were

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- 4 caught within our system.
- Q. And that's what I'm asking about. Between
- 6 2009 and 2011, are you aware of times where
- 7 pharmacists were caught stealing or diverting
- 8 controlled substances?
- A. There were times from my entire time at
- 10 Giant Eagle from '96 to 2011 where pharmacists had
- 11 issues with either abusing drugs or technicians
- 12 stealing that were caught that I'm aware of, but I --
- 13 I don't recall the two-year window. I mean, in that
- 14 15 years there were situations where that did occur
- 15 that were brought to my attention.
 - Q. And how about diversion or theft that
- 17 occurred at the HBC warehouse, any recollection of
- 18 that occurring between 2009 and 2011 when HBC acted as
- 19 a distributor of controlled substances?
- 20 A. I'm not aware of any theft or diversion
- 21 issues that were identified in the warehouse.
- O. Not at all?
- A. None that I recall.
- Q. Is that something that would make its way

- A. The systems that we had in place, if there
- 2 was any major diversion identified, it would have been
- ³ pushed up to my level, but there was no diversion or
- 4 theft to the level that got pushed up to my area.
- ⁵ Q. So between 2009 and 2011, to the best of
- 6 your recollection, there were never any pharmacists
- ⁷ who ever stole or diverted controlled substances?
- 8 MR. KOBRIN: Object to form. It misrepresents
- 9 his testimony.
- 10 BY THE WITNESS:
- 11 A. I -- I didn't state that.
- 12 BY MR. HUDSON:
- Q. You testified that if there were any major
- 14 diversions identified, they would have made their way
- 15 up to your level, right?
- MR. KOBRIN: Object to form.
- 17 BY THE WITNESS:
- A. If -- if there was a -- a situation that
- 19 involved theft, it would have come to my level at some
- 20 point, but it was many, many years ago.
- 21 BY MR. HUDSON:
- Q. Right. And then you -- but then you --
- 23 the other part of your answer is you said "there was
- 24 no diversion or theft to the level that got pushed up

- 1 up to your level or would that be handled by
- 2 Mr. Doerr, Mr. Rogos or others?
- 3 A. It probably would have eventually got to
- 4 me, but, again, I don't recall any situations of theft
- 5 or diversion at the distribution center.
- 6 Q. And between 2009 and 2011, did Mr. -- was
- 7 Mr. Doerr the head of the HBC facility?
- 8 A. I don't remember. Some guy named Walt, I
- 9 think, but I -- I don't recall the gentleman's name.
- 10 I mean, my -- my interaction or my point of contact
- 11 was always Greg Carlson and then Greg would have been
- 12 in contact with the proper distribution center, but I
- 13 don't -- I don't recall the person's name.
- 14 Q. As the VP of Pharmacy, did you oversee the
- 15 HBC warehouse, in other words, would that fall within,
- 16 sort of, your chain of command?
- A. No. The only thing that would have fallen
- 18 in my chain of command were the -- the
- 19 pharmaceuticals, specifically the generics that were
- 20 being distributed, but the rest of the merchandise I
- 21 was not responsible for.
- Q. Did -- did Walt or any -- anyone else at
- 23 HBC report up the chain to Mr. Carlson or to you, do
- 24 you know?

- 1 MR. KOBRIN: Object to form.
- ² BY THE WITNESS:
- A. Mr. Carlson reported to me, but the person
- 4 that oversaw the distribution center would have
- 5 reported up to another person on the distribution or
- 6 logistics side of the business.
- 7 BY MR. HUDSON:
- 8 Q. Did HBC, the warehouse, did it have any
- 9 compliance department or compliance employees that
- 10 were physically located at the facility?
- 11 A. I'm -- I'm not aware of any.
- Q. Do you know whether or not there were any
- 13 compliance employees or executives that were assigned
- 14 to oversee the actions at the HBC warehouse?
- 15 A. I'm not aware of them.
- 16 Q. Do you -- between 2009 and 2011, did you
- visit, ever visit the HBC warehouse?
- 18 A. Yes.
- Q. And approximately how many times?
- A. I'd say approximately two, but that's just
- 21 based on my recollection. I really don't recall. But
- 22 it was at least once, it may have been twice.
- Q. Do you know whether or not as part of that
- 24 integrated system that you've discussed, were there

- data were their look -- were they looking at, if you
- 2 know?
- A. They would be looking at the orders, but I
- 4 don't recall how that data was actually transmitted to
- 5 them.

13

- 6 Q. And -- and I apologize. I think I've
- ⁷ asked you this question already, but I just want to
- 8 make sure the record is clear.
- 9 Do you know one way or the other whether
- 10 or not those pharmacy buyers were using any computer
- 11 programs to assist them in their review of those
- 12 orders or shipments?
 - A. I'm not aware of the tools that they used
- 14 to -- to monitor that particular activity.
- Q. Do you know whether or not Giant Eagle or
- 16 HBC had any -- anyone assigned to investigate
- potential suspicious orders?
- A. I think I've already described the system,
- 19 that it was in place to identify any -- anything that
- 20 looked like it was unusual.
- Q. Right. And so let's assume then that
- 22 there was an order that was flagged or identified as
- 23 being unusual.
- Was there -- was there some investigator

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- 1 employees from corporate who were assigned to the HBC
- 2 warehouse?
- 3 MR. KOBRIN: Object to form.
- 4 BY THE WITNESS:
- 5 A. I'm not sure I understand the question.
- 6 You said assigned from corporate to --
- 7 BY MR. HUDSON:
- 8 Q. Yeah. I guess I'm trying to get an
- 9 understanding of -- of just how the -- the integrated
- 10 system worked in terms of who -- you know, which
- 11 personnel worked with -- with who and how the system
- 12 actually operated.
- MR. KOBRIN: Object to form.
- 14 BY THE WITNESS:
- A. Well, the -- the buyers that I mentioned,
- 16 which would be monitoring, you know, the orders coming
- 17 from the stores to the warehouse and then the orders
- 18 from the warehouse to the manufacturers, those
- 19 pharmacy buyers were probably sitting in Giant Eagle
- 20 headquarters. I don't think they were sitting in the
- 21 HBC warehouse.
- 22 BY MR. HUDSON:
- Q. And those -- do you know what data, would
- 24 it be the purchase and -- and shipping data, or what

- 1 or person that then was in place to go out and
- ² investigate that order to try to figure out whether it

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- 3 was legitimate or at risk for diversion?
- 4 A. My understanding is the -- the buyer that
- 5 identified something that might look different, that
- 6 they would do the investigation. If they were not
- ⁷ satisfied, then I'm assuming that they would -- they
- 8 would talk to Greg Carlson about that issue.
- 9 Q. And, again, in terms of the pharmacy buyer
- 10 or buyers, you don't have any recollection of who
- that -- who that would have been?
- 12 A. I don't recall who those folks were.
- Q. Do you know whether or not it was one,
- 14 two, three, how many people were involved in that
- 15 process?

- 16 A. I don't recall.
 - Q. Do you have any sense of how much time
- 18 the -- those pharmacy buyers spent monitoring orders
- 19 or shipments?
- A. No, I do not.
- Q. To the best of your recollection, you
- ²² believe that they were physically located, though, at
- 23 the -- at corporate headquarters?
- A. That's -- would be my recollection, yes.

- Q. And anything else you can think of related
- 2 to the pharmacy buyers monitoring orders, anything
- 3 more specific you can say about that process?
- 4 MR. KOBRIN: Object to form.
- 5 BY THE WITNESS:
- 6 A. I think I've described as best I recall
- 7 what the system was in place to do that monitoring.
- 8 MR. HUDSON: We've been going about an hour.
- 9 Let's take a short break.
- THE VIDEOGRAPHER: 9:58, we are off the video
- 11 record.
- 12 (WHEREUPON, a recess was had
- from 9:58 to 10:26 a.m.)
- 14 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: 10:26, we are on the video
- 15 record.
- 16 BY MR. HUDSON:
- Q. Mr. Heiser, I want to switch gears, if I
- 18 could, and just make sure I understand the
- 19 organizational structure of Giant Eagle when you were
- 20 there, and I'm really focused on that time period from
- 21 November of 2009 until October of 2011.
- 22 A. Okav.
- Q. Could you just describe for me, you were
- 24 obviously the VP of Pharmacy, but if you could just

- 1 best of your recollection, I know it's been a number
- 2 of years, but can you just describe them going up the
- 3 chain how the -- you know, how the reporting worked,
- 4 to your knowledge?
- 5 A. Under me?
- 6 Q. No. Up the chain, meaning, sorry, above.
- 7 A. Above.
- 8 Q. Yeah. So either Brett Merrell or John
- 9 Lucot. So John Lucot was the president, you remember?
- 10 A. Correct.
- 11 Q. Right. And so then did he --
- 12 A. Lucot would have reported to David
- 13 Shapira, the CEO. And during Brett Merrell's time, I
- 14 think -- I think Brett would have also reported to
- 15 John Lucot and then Lucot would have reported to the
- 16 CEO.
- 17 Q. Okay.
- 18 A. But -- but -- but I --
- MR. KOBRIN: Don't speculate. If you remember,
- 20 it's fine.

1

- 21 BY THE WITNESS:
- 22 A. I -- I don't recall specifically what that
- 23 reporting structure was.
- 24 BY MR. HUDSON:

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- 1 describe for me who you reported to and then who
- 2 reported to you?
- 3 A. Okay. Who I reported to changed
- 4 throughout my 15 years at Giant Eagle. So I don't
- 5 recall between 2009 and 2011 who I reported to. I can
- 6 give you a history.
- 7 Initially I reported to John Tedesco who
- 8 at that time oversaw pharmacy, health and beauty care,
- 9 non-foods, photo. At some point my reporting changed
- 10 and I reported to Laura Karet when she was in charge
- 11 of pharmacy merchandising. At another point I
- 12 reported to John Lucot, and I think at his capacity he
- 13 was president of Giant Eagle at the time. And the
- 14 last person that I reported to was Brett Merrell, and
- 15 he was senior vice president of health and wellness.
- 16 But I don't recall 2009 2011 who it was, but the
- 17 last person was Brett Merrell, but I don't recall when
- 18 I began reporting to him.
- 19 Q. So it may have been John Lucot as well, in
- 20 other words, at some point during that?
- A. Correct. It's -- I don't think it was
- 22 Laura Karet. It was either Brett Merrell during that
- 23 time period or John Lucot. I -- I just don't recall.
- Q. And then during that time period, to the

- Q. Sure.
- 2 And then -- so then how about underneath
- ³ you? You've talked about Greg Carlson, but if you
- 4 could, just describe what you recall about the
- 5 organizational structure underneath you?
- 6 A. And I'll -- I'll start with 2011 because,
- 7 again, it changed going back from 2011 to '96, but
- 8 when I left the Giant Eagle, the people that reported
- 9 to me were: Greg Carlson, who had responsibility for
- 10 purchasing; Debbie Kraznow, who had responsibility for
- 11 managed care, contracting with the different health
- 12 plans; Joe Meshanski, who was responsible for IT; Sean
- 13 Raynak, who was responsible for business development
- 14 and analysis; and Anthony Mollica, who was responsible
- 15 for pharmacy operations.
- Q. And if you went back in time to 2010 or
- 2009, do you have any recollection of how that may
- 18 have changed?
- 19 A. At some point the position of overseeing
- 20 pharmacy operations was added. I don't know when that
- 21 was added. So Anthony would have moved into that
- 22 position. Prior to that all of the district managers
- 23 reported directly to me, but at some point Anthony
- 24 Mollica was inserted so that they reported -- the ten

- 1 reported to him and then he reported to me.
- The position also of business development
- 3 and analysis, Sean Raynak, that was one that was
- 4 recently added, but the ones that were there for --
- 5 for many years was the purchasing, Greg Carlson; the
- 6 managed care, Debbie Kraznow; and the IT under Joe
- 7 Meshanski.
- 8 Q. Why did you decide to leave Giant Eagle?
- 9 A. At some point in October of 2011, Brett
- 10 Merrell came to me and said the company has made a
- 11 decision to move the pharmacy in a new direction and
- 12 they felt that Brett Merrell was the more appropriate
- 13 person to move it into that direction and they
- 14 presented me with a severance package.
- Q. What was the direction, to your knowledge,
- 16 that the pharmacy was going to move in?
- 17 A. It was never disclosed to me.
- Q. Did anybody ever identify for you, you
- 19 know, crit -- criticisms or complaints about your role
- 20 in overseeing the pharmacy?
- A. I was never aware of any criticism about
- 22 my performance.
- Q. Anything else you recall from that time
- 24 period when Mr. Merrell approached you with the

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- MR. KOBRIN: Object to form, asked and answered.
 BY THE WITNESS:
- 3 A. -- I have -- I have not seen any specific
- 4 change in how they are conducting their pharmacy, but
- 5 I also don't have insight into what's going on.
- 6 BY MR. HUDSON:
- Q. When you were the VP of Pharmacy at Giant
- 8 Eagle, did you receive incentive compensation?
- 9 A. There was a -- a bonus program in addition
- 10 to the normal weekly compensation.
- Q. Was the -- was the bonus program based off
- 12 of the performance specific to the pharmacy or the
- entire company?
- 14 A. The entire company.
- Q. After you left Giant Eagle, you joined
- 16 McKesson?
- 17 A. Correct.
- Q. And what was your role there?
- 19 A. My role was Director of National Accounts
- 20 Six Sigma.
- Q. And it looks like you stayed in that role
- ²² a little less than two years?
- A. It was less -- it was actually less than a
- 24 year.

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- buyout?A. Concerning -- what's your specific
- 3 question?
- 4 Q. Well, just anything else you recall about
- 5 that. In other words, the -- you know, the
- 6 conversations or anything more specific about the
- ⁷ reasoning for why the decision was made?
- 8 MR. KOBRIN: Object to form.
- 9 BY THE WITNESS:
- 10 A. No. They wanted to move in another
- 11 direction and here it is. I was the first of -- of
- 12 many severance packages that were handed out at Giant
- 13 Eagle when new management came in at the top.
- 14 BY MR. HUDSON:
- Q. And who was the new management at the top,
- 16 Brett Merrell?
- A. No. Laura Karet would have been the new
- 18 CEO.
- Q. Do you have any -- looking back now and
- 20 sitting here today, do you have any knowledge or
- 21 understanding of how Giant Eagle may have shifted
- 22 direction or moved in a different, you know, approach
- 23 with -- under new management?
- 24 A. No, I --

Q. Okay. Less than a year.

- 2 And then why did you leave McKesson?
- 3 A. It just was not a good fit. My position
- 4 was to look for cost savings between the national
- 5 accounts and McKesson and it was very numbers and
- 6 commodity driven and it was not a good fit for me. I
- 7 need to be around people.
- 8 Q. And then what did you do after you left
- 9 McKesson?

- 10 A. I started working for CVS as a pharmacist.
 - Q. And is your job just to be a pharmacist at
- 12 a specific pharmacy?
- A. I'm currently a pharmacy manager at a
- 14 specific pharmacy south of Pittsburgh in McKeesport,
- 15 Pennsylvania.
- Q. And then prior to that you were in -- out
- of -- a pharmacist in Masontown, Pennsylvania?
- 18 A. Correct. Masontown, I was a staff
- 19 pharmacist there.
- Q. And what does that mean, staff pharmacist?
- A. I wasn't the pharmacy manager.
- Q. Okay. How many pharmacists are there at
- 23 your current pharmacy in McKeesport?
- A. One-and-a-half.

| | Page 62 | | Page 64 |
|--|--|--|--|
| 1 | Q. You being the one? | 1 | DEPOSITION ERRATA SHEET |
| 2 | A. Me being the one. | 2 | |
| 3 | MR. HUDSON: Okay. I think that's all I've got. | 3 | |
| 4 | No further questions. Thanks. | 4 | Case Caption: In Re: National Prescription |
| 5 | MR. KOBRIN: Can we just take a quick break. | 5 | Opiate Litigation |
| 6 | I'm not going to have very much redirect either. | 6 | |
| 7 | THE VIDEOGRAPHER: 10:35, we are off the record. | 7 | DECLARATION UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY |
| 8 | (WHEREUPON, a recess was had | 8 | |
| 9 | from 10:35 to 10:42 a.m.) | 9 | I declare under penalty of perjury that I |
| 10 | THE VIDEOGRAPHER: 10:42, we are on the video | 10 | have read the entire transcript of my Deposition taken |
| 11 | record. | 11 | in the captioned matter or the same has been read to |
| 12 | MR. KOBRIN: We have no additional questions. | 12 | me, and the same is true and accurate, save and except |
| 13 | THE VIDEOGRAPHER: 10:42, we are off the video | 13 | for changes and/or corrections, if any, as indicated |
| 14 | record. This concludes the video deposition. | 14 | by me on the DEPOSITION ERRATA SHEET hereof, with the |
| 15 | (Time Noted: 10:42 a.m.) | 15 | understanding that I offer these changes as if still |
| 16 | FURTHER DEPONENT SAITH NAUGHT. | 16 | under oath. |
| 17 | TORTHER DEFONENT SHITTI WICOITT. | 17 | and out. |
| 18 | | 18 | RANDY HEISER |
| 19 | | 19 | KIND I HEIGEK |
| 20 | | 20 | SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO |
| 21 | | | before me this day |
| 22 | | 22 | ř |
| | | | of , A.D. 20 |
| 23 | | 23 | Note on Dell's |
| 24 | | 24 | Notary Public |
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| | Page 63 | | Page 65 |
| 1 | Page 63 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE | 1 | Page 65 DEPOSITION ERRATA SHEET |
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| | _ | | DEPOSITION ERRATA SHEET |
| 2 | REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE | 2 3 | DEPOSITION ERRATA SHEET Page No Line No Change to: |
| 2 3 | REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE I, JULIANA F. ZAJICEK, C.S.R. No. 84-2604, | 2 3 4 | DEPOSITION ERRATA SHEET Page NoLine NoChange to: |
| 3 4 | REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE I, JULIANA F. ZAJICEK, C.S.R. No. 84-2604, a Certified Shorthand Reporter, do hereby certify: | 2 3 4 | DEPOSITION ERRATA SHEET Page NoLine NoChange to: Reason for change: |
| 2 3 4 5 | REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE I, JULIANA F. ZAJICEK, C.S.R. No. 84-2604, a Certified Shorthand Reporter, do hereby certify: That previous to the commencement of the | 2 3 4 5 6 | DEPOSITION ERRATA SHEET Page NoLine NoChange to: Reason for change: Page NoLine NoChange to: |
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